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We are committed to making that vision a reality.

PRESS RELEASE

July 15, 2020

For Immediate Release

Contact: Tanenbaum's Communications Manager, Dasha Tanner, at dtanner@tanenbaum.org or via phone at (323) 828 – 0386.

Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding earns Nissan Grant to Fund Unique Cultural & Racial Diversity Programming

- Nissan Foundation grant to fund Tanenbaum's "Building Community by Promoting the Value of Diversity at Schools", aimed at equipping schools with skills and strategies for respect and inclusion for all of its diverse members.
- Now in its 28th year, the Nissan Foundation supports educational programs that promote a greater appreciation and understanding of America's diverse cultural heritage.

New York, NY, July 15, 2020: The Nissan Foundation today named the Tanenbaum | Center for Interreligious Understanding a 2020 grant recipient. The Nissan Foundation grant will help fund partnerships with NYC high schools to train key stakeholders—namely students, teachers and parents—in skills for dismantling stereotypes, interrupting bullying and developing inclusive learning communities at school.

Over the course of one year, Tanenbaum will identify and partner with 3 NYC high schools, developing and facilitating a series of trainings for addressing bias and promoting skills and attitudes of respect for difference. Trainings will be tailored to the specific needs of each school and informed by data collected from interviews and surveys conducted beforehand. Through intensive trainings targeted to the specific experiences and needs of students, teachers and parents, Tanenbaum aims to equip the school community with skills and strategies for respect, so that schools become inclusive places for all of its diverse members.

"We are grateful to the Nissan Foundation for its continued support of our work to educate students and communities to respect differences, including the religious differences among them," said Rev. Mark Fowler, Tanenbaum CEO, "This grant will help us build new partnerships and opportunities to extend our Education program's reach and impact."

The Nissan Foundation was created in 1992 as a thoughtful response to the three weeks of violent civil unrest that occurred near Nissan North America's then U.S. sales and marketing operations in Southern California following the Rodney King trial verdict. Nissan established a \$5 million endowment to promote cultural diversity within southern Los Angeles neighborhoods.

In the 28 years since, the Nissan Foundation has awarded more than \$12 million to approximately 150 nonprofit organizations to support innovative programs that break down societal barriers and build inclusive communities through education and outreach. Grant recipients promote cultural diversity across a variety of arts, education, social and public programs in seven U.S. communities where Nissan operates.

"It's an honor to recognize Tanenbaum for the unique programming it's offering community members at a time in our history when conversations about race, ethnicity, bias, education and solutions are at the forefront," said Nissan Foundation President Travis Parman. "Change at a macro level starts with change at a micro level. Tanenbaum's programming is promoting dialogue about race and ethnicity in a safe space and encouraging local community members to engage."

The Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding, founded close to 30 years ago and based in New York City, offers programs and resources providing educators, physicians and corporate leaders with practical tools for addressing differences and creating cultures that respect religious diversity. Tanenbaum was founded in 1992 by Dr. Georgette F. Bennett, in memory of her late husband, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, a humanitarian interfaith leader.

For almost 25 years, Tanenbaum has expanded multi-cultural education to include religious diversity. Tanenbaum provides school and community educators with training, resources and curricula to address stereotypes and approach differences, including religious differences, with an attitude of respectful curiosity and an open-mindedness that will help them navigate the wider world.

Rev. Mark Fowler, Tanenbaum's CEO added, "The Nissan Foundation is a valuable partner in our work to build justice and promote respect for religious difference in our communities. We are grateful for their continued support."

The Nissan Foundation is awarding a total of \$680,000 in grants to 27 nonprofit organizations for its 2020 grant cycle. The nonprofit recipients are located in Southern California, Tennessee, Central Mississippi, Eastern Michigan and the New York and Atlanta metro areas – all areas where Nissan has an operational presence.

Nissan Foundation grants are awarded annually; the next grants will be awarded in June 2021. For more information about the Nissan Foundation, the 2020 grantees and the grant application process, visit the [Nissan Foundation page](#).

About the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding

Based in New York City, Tanenbaum is a secular, non-sectarian nonprofit that promotes justice and builds respect for religious difference by transforming individuals and institutions to reduce prejudice, hatred and violence in schools, workplaces, health care settings, and conflict zones.

More information about Tanenbaum's offerings can be found here: <https://tanenbaum.org/>.

About the Nissan Foundation

Established in 1992, the mission of the Nissan Foundation is to build community through valuing cultural diversity. The Nissan Foundation is part of Nissan North America's commitment to "enrich people's lives" by helping to meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S. through philanthropic investments, corporate outreach sponsorships, in-kind donations and other charitable contributions.

About Nissan North America

In North America, Nissan's operations include automotive styling, engineering, consumer and corporate financing, sales and marketing, distribution and manufacturing. Nissan is dedicated to improving the environment under the Nissan Green Program and has been recognized annually by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency as an ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year since 2010. More information on Nissan in North America and the complete line of Nissan and INFINITI vehicles can be found online at www.NissanUSA.com and www.infinitiusa.com, or visit the U.S. media sites NissanNews.com and infinitinews.com.

For more information contact Tanenbaum's Communications Manager, Dasha Tanner, at dtanner@tanenbaum.org or (323) 828 - 0386.

Or Parul Bajaj, Nissan Foundation at Parul.Bajaj@nissan-usa.com

Tanenbaum is a secular, non-sectarian nonprofit that systematically dismantles religious violence and hatred through Peacemakers in armed conflicts and by tackling religious bullying of students, harassment in workplaces and disparate health treatment for people based on their beliefs. More information about Tanenbaum's offerings can be found here: <https://tanenbaum.org/>

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